

CITY OF SNOQUALMIE

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL PLAN

1. Introduction

The mission of the city of Snoqualmie's Snow and Ice Removal Plan is to provide the safest possible roadway system and access routes for motorists, public schools, fire, police and aid vehicles. The city will provide such control in a safe and cost effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel, and environmental concerns. The city will use city employees, equipment, and/or private contractors to provide this service. However it will not fully eliminate the effects or impacts of a snow and ice emergency.

2. When will the City start snow or ice control operations?

The Maintenance Supervisor will decide when to begin snow or ice control operations. The criteria for that decision are:

- A. Snow accumulation;
- B. Drifting of snow that causes problems for travel;
- C. Icy conditions which seriously affect travel; and
- D. Time of snowfall in relationship to heavy use of streets.

3. What type of equipment does the City use?

- Two 5-yard dump trucks equipped with plows and sanders
- One 3-yard dump truck with plow and sander
- Six pickup trucks with plows and sanders
- Two 1997 580SL Case backhoes
- Three plow-ready pickup trucks for backup
- Two small utility tractors with loaders

4. Priorities and schedule for which streets will be plowed

The city has classified city streets based on the street function, traffic volume, and importance to the welfare of the community. Those streets classified as "Snow Plow Routes" will be plowed first. These are high volume routes, which connect major sections of the city and provide access for emergency fire, police, and medical services.

The second priority streets are those streets providing access to schools and commercial businesses. The third priority streets are low volume residential streets, alleys and city parking lots.

5. **Snow Plow Priority Routes.**

A. MAJOR ARTERIALS, TRANSIT & SCHOOL BUS ROUTES.

- Snoqualmie Parkway
- Railroad Ave.
- School bus snow routes
- Meadowbrook Way & 384th Ave. S.E.
- River St.
- Hills (Fairway Ave., Eagle Lake, Douglas Ave. S.E., S.E. McCullough St., S. E. Carmichael St. S.E. Jacobia St.)
- Hospital Entrance, SE 99th
- City buildings and parking lots

B. RESIDENTIAL STREETS.

- Collector Streets (High Volume)
- All other Streets

B. LOW PRIORITY

- Alleys
- City parks
- Paved walking trails

6. **How snow will be plowed**

Snow will be plowed in a manner so as to minimize any traffic obstructions. The center of the roadway will be plowed first. The snow shall then be pushed from left to right. The discharge shall go onto the right hand shoulder of the street. When a plow goes on a bridge, the driver shall slow down so snow does not go over the bridge, if possible. In times of extreme snowfall, streets will not always immediately be able to be completely cleared of snow.

7. **Work schedule for snowplow operators**

Snowplow operators will be expected to work eight-hour shifts. In severe snow emergencies, operators sometimes have to work in excess of eight-hour shifts. However, because of budget and safety concerns, no operator shall work more than a twelve-hour shift in any twenty-four hour period. Operators will take a fifteen-minute break every two hours with a half-hour meal break after four hours. After a twelve-hour day, the operators will be replaced if additional qualified personnel are available.

8. Weather conditions

Snow and ice control operations will be conducted only when weather conditions do not endanger the safety of city employees and equipment. Factors that may delay snow and ice control operations include: severe cold, significant winds, and limited visibility.

9. We kindly request your patience

- The City has limited equipment to plow and sand approximately 40 miles of roads.
- Residents can help by moving their cars off the street and into their driveways or other areas designated by the City during snow events. Fewer vehicles parked on streets allows for quicker and better plowing.
- Inevitably cars and driveways may be blocked with snow from the plow. Please understand that this is at times unavoidable. Snow removal in Snoqualmie can be a monumental task with the limited resources. Street crews are dedicated to the safety of the community and will do the best they can around the clock to plow and sand our community.

For questions or comments regarding The City of Snoqualmie's Snow and Ice Removal Plan please contact the Public Works Department at 425-831-4919